Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Marlinton, W. Va.

Mar. 23, 1940

Pocahontas County

Chapter 5- Section 2-a

Shortly after the construction of the first road
into Pocahontas County (1838) called the Warm Springs
and Huntersville Turnpike, a man by the name of John
Harness began hauling goods from Staunton into the mount-
ains for the purpose of trading with the settlers.   He
made his headquarters at the home of John Bradshaw at
Huntersville and here he began to trade his supplies of
salt, coffee, powder, lead, a few pieces of calico, etc.,
for the pelts, venison and ginseng of the hunters.   From
this fact the place became known as Huntersville.   It had
a very prosperous development on account of the traders
meeting here to exchange goods.   It was no uncommon thing
for the Huntersville merchants to realize three or four
hundred per cent on dry goods, and not much less on gro-
ceries during the period from 1822 to 1845.

In 1852 a very disasterous fire occurred and
destroyed most of the business part of the village.
Other buildings were erected but were burned by the Fed-
eral troops to prevent its being a confederate depot for
military supplies.

When peace was restored between the States, Hunt-
ersville recuperated rapidly.   Many trades were carried
on such as harness and saddlery, tailoring, blacksmithing,
and hostelry in conjunction with salooning.